

## **DUCHESNE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM STRATEGIC PLAN 2009 - 2012**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

□□□□□□□□□□ This document was developed using the Public Library Association's strategic planning process ("New Planning for Results") as implemented by consultants from the Utah State Library Division. The basis of this approach is community input. Between June and August 2008 the Duchesne County Library Board and staff of the libraries gathered feedback from county residents, library users, and others interested and involved parties about community needs and desires for services, current and future, through a statistically validated survey instrument. The instrument was developed with the assistance of the BYU Center for Collaborative Research and Statistical Consulting. In response to this assessment the board selected four library service responses for the standard role set.

### **COMMUNITY PROFILE:**

Duchesne County consists of 3, 255 square miles in the Uintah Basin of North Eastern Utah. the population in 2007 was estimated at 16,216. The county's economy is based primarily on the livestock industry, but the area is also rich in oil and natural gas. As in Uintah County to the east, Duchesne County's oil and natural gas industries fluctuate according to international oils and natural gas markets. Fifty-four percent of the county land base is managed by state and federal government agencies, 27 percent is private, and 18 percent is part of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation. There are six incorporated cities or towns in the county as well as eight unincorporated communities.

The High Uintah Wilderness, including its many rivers, streams and lakes, and the western end of the mineral-rich Roan and Book Cliff Mountains are located within short driving distances from county locations. The rich history and culture of the area is evident throughout the county. Many amenities are available, such as the outstanding 18-hole golf course in Roosevelt City and Starvation State Park and reservoir near Duchesne City, which offers 3,500 acres of fishing and boating.

Currently there are two opportunities for advanced education in the county -- Utah State University -- Uintah Basin and the Uintah Basin Applied Technology College -- both located in Roosevelt. To meet the needs of our widely spread populace the Duchesne County System comprises two libraries located thirty miles apart, one in the county seat, Duchesne, which is geographically more central, and one in the largest city, Roosevelt.

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the Duchesne County Library System is to provide quality library services to our patrons, including up to date recreational and informational materials in a variety of formats.

### **CORRALARIES OF THE MISSION STATEMENT:**

1. The Duchesne County Library System is committed to providing lifelong learning and access to patrons of all ages in and increasingly multicultural community. Accordingly, the library system awareness and encourage sensitivity to diversity among its patrons. The staff of the library system will continuously work to further the intellectual diversity of its collections and services to reflect the needs of the community it serves.
2. The library system is strongly committed to providing the children we serve with materials that will encourage them to become lifelong readers. We aim to do this by providing an environment that will foster learning and an increased love for books.
3. Since we live in an information age it's important that we provide our patrons with access to current technology. We will do this by providing the patrons we serve access to the Internet and other electronic technologies.
4. We affirm that increased knowledge will enhance our community. Therefore, we will act as a supplemental source of information to students of both higher education and local public schools.
5. It is important that we fulfill our role as recreational reading centers. We will do this by

providing access to up-to-date reading and other media materials. We will continually monitor bestseller lists and public preference and keep a list of requested books in order to fulfill this role.

### SELECTED SERVICE RESPONSES:

1. Resources and Programs to Encourage Lifelong Learning: In an effort to respond to the interests of the county's residents we will look carefully at the type, amount and age range of those we provide services and programs for at both libraries to make sure we will attract all age levels by providing things that they are interested in doing as well as reading or listening to. It is our belief that a strong library begins with strong collections. We will work to strengthen the collections at both branch libraries through new purchases and through selective discards of old, unused and ruined materials. We will seek funding for collection expansion. We will continue to update the libraries collections.

2. Services and Programs Designed to Create Young Readers and Encourage Early Literacy: The collection aimed at younger readers will be continuously monitored to ensure it is adequately serving the needs and interests of the targeted patrons in all kinds of formats. Programs tailored to the young reader will be developed and presented.

3. Public Internet Access Computers: The number of public access computers available for use by residents of the county will be monitored to make sure they are used for the intended purposes. The placement of these computers will be monitored.

4. Homework Help Center: Library staff will be educated on ways to assist with research and homework help techniques. Both libraries can be a secondary resource for all students of the local school district and of higher education. We will also utilize Interlibrary-loan for additional materials as needed.

The collections of both libraries will be evaluated to make sure they have the variety and amount of materials that would be of interest to the greatest number of readers as well as in the most useful formats. Collections will also be evaluated for culling of ruined or unused items. Programs geared to a wider range of users will be evaluated and developed to provide for the interests of the residents we serve.

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The following section outlines the four service responses (roles) selected for the Duchesne County Library System with their respective supporting services and programs that the library will undertake in the next three years to address the identified needs of the county.

### Role #1

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#### **Resources and Programs to Encourage Lifelong Learning**

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Target Audience

Adults

GOALS:

The collection will be reviewed on a regular basis to see if it is meeting the needs of the residents of the county. Circulation statistics will be evaluated to see areas of high use material. Patrons will be asked to see if the materials we currently have are filling their informational needs. Staff will offer interlibrary loan services for those who request material that would seem to have limited use in this area. Periodical collection will be evaluated on a regular basis to see if it is providing the patrons with information they need. Offer patrons instruction on Public Pioneer online databases to help them find needed resources. Programs will be offered geared to the interests of adult readers/learners. The DVD Collection will continue to house non-fiction material that is of interest to patrons.

### Role #2

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#### **Services and Programs Designed to Create Young Readers and Encourage Early Literacy.**

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love of books and reading.

### Target Audience

Children birth through early elementary school and their parents

#### GOALS:

Both libraries will provide programs that will attract young children so they may become familiar with the library services and the staff. Programs will include, but are not limited to weekly story times and summer reading programs. Parents will be encouraged to checkout books that they can read to or somehow share with their children. The collection will be evaluated to make sure the material in the children's area are inviting and of interest to children. All appropriate types of material will be included in the collection.

## ROLE #3

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### Public Internet Access Computer

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#### Target Audience

Young Adults and Adults

#### GOALS:

The library currently provides seven public Internet stations at the Duchesne Library and nine at the Roosevelt Library. Each library will monitor the computers so that they are used for purpose they were intended. Equipment will be evaluated on a regular basis to make sure that it is in good condition. The library plans to follow a similar rotation schedule for computer replacement that the county does -- replacing about one-third of the computers each year. Currently the county has two line items in the budget to take care of these items. The hardware will be taken out of the Capital Outlay-Equipment while software will be taken out of Technology.

ROLE #4

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**Homework Help Center**

Residents will have access to material and other resources that would aid them in completing assignments for school. Contacts will be made with as many educational institutions / teachers as possible to find out what resources would be the most benefit to the students. Our idea is not to duplicate resources provided by each school but to compliment the so that students would have the widest possible range of information at their fingertips. Students will also be visited with as they use the library to see if the information we do have is of use to them or if we need to be using a wider view. Students will be reminded about the availability of Public Pioneer as a resource for them to use. (Students in grades K through 12 should be familiar with School Pioneer, a related source from the Utah State Library.)

**LIBRARY RESOURCE ALLOCATION CHART**

C -Collection    F -Facilities    P-Public Relations Activities    S-Staff    T-Technology

<b>Service Priority 1: Resources and Programs To Encourage Lifelong Learning</b>
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C
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We will strengthen collections of various media at both libraries thru new purchases and selective discards
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F

Buildings will be open during times that accommodate all age groups. Appearance of buildings will be m

P

New materials and programs will be advertised so community members know what is available. A listing

S

Staff will have knowledge of the collections, specific to age -group interests. They will have knowledge o

T

An adequate number of computers will be available for public use. We will seek hands-on training for ad

**Service Priority 2: Services and Programs Designed to Create Young Readers and Encourage Yo**

C

The collections for young readers will be continuously monitored to ensure they are adequately serving t

F

We will maintain sufficient and comfortable space for Story Hour. We will maintain the cleanliness and a

P

We will continue to publicize Story Hour through the local newspaper and the Library Bulletin. We will s

S

Staff will have knowledge of the children's collection and all learning activities available. Staff will encour

T

A small number of computers will be available and maintained for young library patrons, allowing age-sp



**Service Priority 3: Public Internet Access Computers**

C

We will purchase books that teach about Internet usage and safety on the Internet for all ages.

F

An adequate number of computers will be available to public Internet access. Usage will be closely monitored.

P

The Library Bulletin will alert patrons to Internet availability as well as only library resources such as Pioneer.

S

Staff will have knowledge of library resources online and be able to help patrons access those resources

T

The computer system will be regularly maintained. We will follow the replacement schedule as outlined in

#### Service Priority 4: Homework Help Center

C

Collections will be continuously monitored to ensure current and needed study and research resources are

F

An adequate space for study will be available to students. We will seek to purchase and place more as needed

P

We will alert the teenage and adult community to the availability of homework help at the libraries. Tea

S

Library Staff will be educated on ways to assist with research and homework help techniques. Staff will e

T

Students will be encouraged to use online library resources as well as all word processing and office pro

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